

## **RESOLUTION NO. RS2018-1513**

### **A resolution recognizing and welcoming delegates from Nashville's Sister City of Taiyuan, China.**

WHEREAS, the "sister city" concept was inaugurated by President Eisenhower in 1956 to establish greater friendship and understanding among the people of the United States and other nations through person-to-person exchange; and

WHEREAS, in October of 2006, after Sister Cities of Nashville received consular visitors and delegations, a Declaration of Intent to become Sister Cities was signed by Taiyuan's Vice Mayor and Nashville's Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in March 2007, at the direction of the Board of Directors of Sister Cities of Nashville, Inc., the Metropolitan Council of Nashville and Davidson County officially approved a Sister City relationship with Taiyuan, People's Republic of China and authorized implementation of a Sister City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the document establishing Taiyuan and Nashville as Sister Cities was signed by both Mayors in Taiyuan in April 2007, when Nashville's Mayor led a business delegation to China; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, Nashville and Taiyuan have hosted successful Sister City events in both cities, helping to further and strengthen the bond between the two cities; and

WHEREAS, since 2013, an ongoing high school student exchange program has brought 50 students and 10 teachers from Taiyuan to Nashville, and has transported 18 students and three teachers from Nashville to Taiyuan, enabling the development of cultural exchanges and friendships; and

WHEREAS, the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the cities' partnership was commemorated in 2017 in Nashville with a special luncheon hosted by Nashville's Mayor and Taiyuan's Vice Mayor, tours of historic and cultural attractions, a conference, and a true Southern-style dinner at the home of Councilmember Sheri Weiner; and

WHEREAS, Nashville is honored to host Taiyuan Vice Mayor CHE Jinhua and a delegation of Taiyuan officials in mid-December; and

WHEREAS, Sister Cities has arranged meetings between the two cities' hospital executives, medical practitioners, and medical team, as well as meetings with Cumberland River Compact, Martha O'Bryan Center, and Green Door Gourmet Urban Farm; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Sister City relationships, hundreds of Nashville citizens have become involved in educational and cultural exchanges, training programs, professional and teacher alliances, and other programs, allowing Nashville's citizens to experience and learn from other cultures, ethnic and religious backgrounds, and to develop lasting friendships; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Metropolitan Council recognize the Taiyuan delegation and honor the beneficial relationship the two cities have formed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. The Metropolitan Council hereby goes on record as recognizing and welcoming delegates from Nashville's Sister City of Taiyuan, China.

Section 2. The Metropolitan Council Office is directed to prepare a copy of this Resolution to be presented to the delegates of Taiyuan, China.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

INTRODUCED BY:

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